

CHARGES AGAINST CHIEF ARE HEARD

Investigation by Petersburg Board of Police Commissioners.

WILL MAKE DECISION TO-DAY

Several Witnesses Examined. Other News of Petersburg.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, 165 North Sycamore Street, Petersburg, Va., August 17. The Board of Police Commissioners sat for three hours this afternoon investigating the charge of neglect of duty preferred against Chief of Police Ragland, on which he had been suspended by Mayor Cameron. The Commonwealth's attorney was present as friend and counsel for the chief, and George Mason was present in the interest of the city. A great many witnesses were examined, including nurses from the Petersburg Hospital, where the trouble occurred that resulted in the chief's suspension. The Mayor's order of suspension was read, and it was decided to confine the evidence to the specific charge therein alleged of neglect of duty in not furnishing police protection to the hospital on the morning of August 15, against the violence of John S. Clary.

Clary, a patient, became suddenly insane between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning, broke up the furniture in his room, threatened to kill the nurses, and caused great excitement by his mad ravings and cursings.

Miss Brown, a nurse, testified to Clary's wild and dangerous condition and to her attempts to get police protection. She called to the station and there was no officer there to send. She called upon Chief Ragland, tried to explain the situation to him, and asked him for aid at once. The chief advised sending for a doctor. She declared she did not want a doctor but some one to subdue a maniac. She says she was very excited and got but little satisfaction. She called upon several doctors, and in the meantime neighbors came to their aid. A subsequent call from Chief Ragland asked if help was wanted, saying that he had done his best to send officers, but then Clary had been subdued and "strapped to a cot."

Miss Brown testified that Captain Ragland had always been a warm friend of the hospital, had rendered assistance whenever called on, and that his kindness had been frequently shown.

Miss Spencer testified to practically the same facts, giving a vivid description of Clary's ravings, and threatening conduct, of the calling in of neighbors, of sending in a fire alarm, of



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Otto Orkin,

411 American National Bank Bldg. Phone Mon. 2214. Richmond. References: C. & O. Ry. offices, E. A. Saunders' Sons Co., E. W. Gates, J. H. Everett Wadley Co., Virginia Hospital. Residence: Dr. Clifton M. Miller, John L. Williams, Dr. Richard C. Waldeen, Dr. Wm. H. Parker, and many others.

his threats to kill the nurses, of the turning of the hose upon him and of his final subjugation. She spoke highly of Captain Ragland's uniform kindness to the hospital.

Mrs. Davis, the matron, for many years always considered Captain Ragland one of the hospital's best friends, and so did many others.

Mrs. J. B. Harrison, at whose home Chief Ragland lives, and Mrs. Ragland, both testified to Captain Ragland's answering the phone, getting out of bed to do so, and to his promise to get officers to the hospital as quickly as possible, and of his efforts to do so. He sent one officer direct from his home, and two from the police station.

John E. Harvell, a neighbor of the hospital, told of Clary's violence and murderous tendency, of his turning the hospital hose upon him, of his fall to the ground when he was found temporarily helpless and was borne in on a cot, of his subsequent violence, and of the necessity of strapping and putting the straitjacket on him. Police officers did not get there until after Clary was brought into the hospital, and they helped to hold him.

Four police officers testified of being ordered to the hospital by Chief Ragland, to hurrying there with all speed, and rendering the best service they could. Chief Ragland testified that about 1:30 o'clock his phone rang violently, and for some time, that he jumped out of bed to answer, heard a woman calling excitedly, "Mr. Eanes," several times. He told her he was not Mr. Eanes, but the Chief of Police. He understood her to say she wanted Mr. Eanes (a detective). He did not know at the time who was talking, but she said Clary was giving trouble, and asked that officers be sent. He replied that he would send officers as soon as possible. He phoned to the station to wake up two officers who were asleep there, and send them to the hospital as quick as possible. He then connected with the hospital, and said that officers would be sent at once. The officers from the station house obeyed the order at once, testifying that they dressed as they ran to the hospital.

Another officer was sent from the chief's home, reaching the hospital in a few minutes. So the evidence as to furnishing police protection as promptly as possible was in the chief's favor. Captain Ragland stated that he had always entertained the kindest possible feelings for the hospital, had often responded to calls for assistance there, had several times been a patient there, and had married there. He loves the institution as he does his home. He could not possibly have

WILL WED A TITLE



MISS MILDRED SHERMAN, of New York, whose engagement to Lord Camoys has been announced. Lord Camoys met Miss Sherman when he came to America to act as usher at the wedding of his friend, Lord Deedes, to Miss Vivien Gould.

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In order to reduce our stock before inventory we offer to you the most complete line of Trunks, Bags, Suit Cases and Leather Novelties in the entire South, at a big saving in price. The Rountree factory-to-you policy of selling goods cuts out all middlemen's profit, thereby making a saving to you of about half. If you ever expect at any time to carry baggage, you owe it to your self-interest to take advantage of this greatest of sales.

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Reductions throughout the store range from 20 per cent. to 33 1/2 per cent., with the exception of Wardrobe Trunks, Thermos Bottles, Durham Duplex and Gillette Safety Razors.

Trunks	Suit Cases	Steamer and Auto Rugs
\$5.50, now \$3.60	\$5.00, now \$3.25	In beautiful patterns and colors, now reduced from 25 to 33 1/2 per cent. It will pay you to investigate these values.
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\$8.50, now \$6.80	\$7.00, now \$5.25	
\$10.00, now \$7.75	\$7.50, now \$5.75	
\$12.00, now \$9.60	\$9.50, now \$6.15	
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The great English author, dealing particularly with the terrible crimes of that organization. The story, which is full of thrilling episodes, is entitled "The Narrative of James Rigby." Read it with other fine literary gems in the next issue of the Illustrated Sunday Magazine of

The Sunday Times-Dispatch

Mme. Recamier, Born Coquette

Many men fell under the captivating manners and personal charms of the wonderful Mme. Recamier. Her many love affairs are the basis of a very clever article by Deshler Welch, in his series of "Wonderful Women of the World," in the Illustrated Sunday Magazine.

Other Live Reading in This Issue

"High Finance and Love," by Elliott Flower; "Imaginary Recollections," by John Kendrick Bangs; "The Work of the Blind Photographer," by Edmund Vance Cook; "Eve in the Business World," by Elizabeth Howell; "The Siesta of Hance Maginn," by J. De Q. Donehoo; A Spanish Legend," by Linda de K. Fulton; "Playing Good Samaritan," by Smith D. Fry; "The Wedding Fee," by Max Merrymann.

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ALL LOCAL JUDGES AWAY FROM CITY

Are Absent on Vacations, but No Emergency Seems to Require Them.

Richmond was without a judge yesterday for the first time in many years. Had any citizen desired bail for a serious offense beyond the province of the bail commissioners, had any one asked an injunction, there might have been a serious hitch.

Clerks of all the courts speculated what would be the result of certain contingencies. An attachment could be issued by the clerk of the court, but were the attachment for perishment goods, only a judge could order a sale. Receiverships would have required a judge had any merchant desired to surrender his affairs to his creditors, and other formalities of court action might have demanded immediate action.

All Were Absent. Heretofore, the judges have by tacit agreement divided their vacations so that one was always available for any emergency. By some misunderstanding every one was away yesterday. Judge S. B. Witt, of the Hustings Court, is at the White Sulphur Springs; Judge Ernest H. Wells, of the Hustings Court, Part 2, at Virginia Beach; Judge R. Carter Scott, of the City Circuit Court, is at Warrenton; Judge Daniel Grinnan, of the Chancery Court, is at his home in Madison; and Judge John H. Ingram, of the Law and Equity Court, is in Southwest Virginia. Clerks of the courts conferred and agreed that the most available judge in event of any emergency was Judge Walter A. Watson, of the Chesterfield Circuit Court, detained at his home at Forest Hill by the illness of his father-in-law, Judge Cardwell, of the Supreme Court, is at his home in Hanover.

No emergency arose, however. The day was quiet in every court. No one appeared with any petition demanding immediate court action, and the clerks spent the day completing the records in previous cases. Judge Wells is expected to return to the court in 24 hours or two, and can act in any emergency for any of the other judges.

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NAUGHT TO 'DISCOVER' IN ROOSEVELT'S RULE

"Contributing Editor" Again Seeks to Justify His Action in Permitting Absorption of Tennessee Company.

New York, August 17.—Ex-President Roosevelt has an article on "The Steel Corporation and the Panic of 1907" in the Outlook appearing to-day. Mr. Roosevelt discusses his recent appearance before the congressional committee investigating the Steel Corporation, repeating the written statement he then presented and dealing with some of the lines of inquiry and his responses. He says:

"On Saturday, August 5, in compliance with the request of the chairman of the congressional committee investigating the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company by the Steel Corporation, I appeared before that body. I had nothing new to which to testify. There was not a fact of the slightest importance or of the slightest bearing upon my action which had not been known from the time I acted; and incidentally I may mention that this is also true as regards Panama, the dealings of my administration with the sugar trust, or any other trust, and as to any other action of my administration. Nobody need feel either concern or hope as to whether anything done by my administration will be 'discovered,' for the excellent reason that there is nothing that was hidden.

Motive Not His Business. "I made to the committee the statement which follows. Several questions were then asked by different members of the committee. Most of these questions dealt with matters not of moment to me, and I answered them to the best of my ability. As to what my belief was concerning the motives of the Steel Corporation people in acquiring the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company's property; to which, of course, my answer was that it was not my business, and neither was it in my power, to search the hidden domain of motive, and that my action was conditioned, not upon what I believed to be the motives actuating the Steel Corporation, but upon my belief that the action which they proposed taking would be enormously to the benefit of the community at large at that particular moment. Whether the chief motive for their action was a desire to absorb the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, or whether their chief motive was to save the threatened New York firm from failure, and thereby stop the panic, was of no concern to me.

"That both motives were in their minds I thought possible, and now think possible. What was the predominant motive was of no consequence to me. My concern was that the action should be taken in the interest of the United States. Most individuals have short memories, and the events in question took place nearly four years ago; but if any one will look back and think the matter over seriously, and in good faith, he will understand that it was not a question of saving any bank or trust company from failure; the question was of saving the plain people, the common people, in all parts of the United States, from dreadful misery and suffering, and this was what my action did.

"One of the questions put to me indicated disbelief, or, to more accurately, perhaps I should say that it was meant to be understood as indicating disbelief, that the action taken was really efficient in stopping the panic. At the time, and for some months after the panic had been stopped, no man would have ventured to express such disbelief unless prepared to be greeted with derision by every human being who knew anything whatever of the actual facts. The question is not to be treated seriously. It cannot be so treated. The action taken was in my judgment, the only action that could stop the panic, and it most certainly was of enormous, and in all human probability of decisive, influence in actually stopping it.

No Bearing on Former Action. "Certain other questions related to the alleged fact that during the past four years the ore lands formerly owned by the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company have been developed until they are of such enormous importance as to give to the Steel Corpora-

tion nearly complete control of the steel business, through control of the sources of the raw material. Whether or not this is so has no bearing upon the action taken four years ago. The purchase as made did not by itself, one way or the other, affect the status of the Steel Corporation so far as the Sherman law was concerned; and this statement is not affected by consideration of what may not be a totally different state of affairs four years later. I dealt with facts as they were, not with facts as they might or might not afterwards become. I believe that this covers every point of any consequence raised in the questions put to me after I had made my statement."

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